
STUDY OF TUMOUR NECROSIS FACTOR AND INTERLEUKIN-1 IN FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER

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The present study was conducted on 40 subjects, 25 patients fulfilling the diagnostic criteria of FMF serve as a patient group, and 15 normal volunteer subjects as a control group. Of 25 FMF patients, there were 14 patients receiving colchicine treatment. The samples were taken, while 14 patients were in attack and 11 were in remission. All patients & controls were subjected to the following: (1) Full medical history. (2) Clinical Examination. (3) Fasting blood sample was drawn from every person and subjected to : 1 - Complete blood picture. 2 - C-reactive protein (CRP). 3 - Serum interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β). 4 - Serum tumour necrosis factor alpha (TNF alpha). Results of this work were statistically analysed. 1 - There was a significant increase in monocyte count in FMF patients compared with healthy subjects. 2 - There was a significant increase in CRP serum levels in FMF patients compared with healthy subjects. 3 - There was a positive significant correlation between TNF-alpha and CRP serum levels. 4 - Serum level of IL-1 β in FMF patients was significantly increased in patient group during acute attacks and in patient group during remissions compared with the healthy controls. 5 Serum level of IL-1 β was significantly increased in patient group during acute attacks compared with patient group during remissions. 6 - The TNF-alpha serum level in patient group during acute attacks and in patient group during remissions was significantly increased in relation to that of healthy controls. 7 - There was a significant increase in TNF-alpha serum level in patient group during acute attacks compared with patient group during remissions. We concluded from this study that : IL-1 β and TNF-alpha serum levels during acute attacks are markedly increased to levels over those of asymptomatic FMF, also IL-1 β and TNF-alpha serum levels in asymptomatic FMF patients are increased over those of control group. SO IL-1 β and TNF-alpha play a role in the clinical diagnosis of FMF.